

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claim 22-41 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-21 are canceled without prejudice and new claims 22-41 are added by the present amendment.

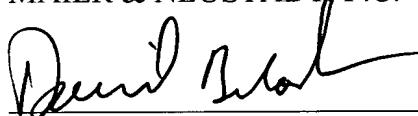
This application is a divisional application of parent application Serial No. 09/265, 598, filed March 10, 1999.

The specification is also amended to include a reference to the parent application and to include the same changes made in the parent application. It is believed no new matter is added.

Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870
David A. Bilodeau
Registration No. 42,325

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

EHK/DAB/RMR/cac